

## [CHAPTER 538]

## AN ACT

July 30, 1942

[H. R. 6807]

[Public Law 689]

To expedite the war effort by releasing officers and men for duty at sea and their replacement by women in the shore establishment of the Navy, and for other purposes.

Naval Reserve Act of 1938, amendment. 52 Stat. 1175; *post*, p. 739.

34 U. S. C. §§ 853-856; Supp. I, §§ 853c, 855f.

*Ante*, p. 266; *post*, p. 739.

Establishment and administration.

Ranks and ratings.

*Proviso.*  
Commissioned grades.

Limitation on military authority.

Age requirement.

Service restriction.

Purpose of Act.

Disability or death benefits.

54 Stat. 864; 56 Stat. 43.

34 U. S. C. § 855c-1; Supp. I, § 855c-2.

*Proviso.*

Articles of uniform and equipment.

*Proviso.*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Naval Reserve Act of 1938, as amended, is further amended by adding after section 401 thereof an additional title as follows:

## "TITLE V—WOMEN'S RESERVE

"SEC. 501. A Women's Reserve is hereby established which shall be a branch of the Naval Reserve and shall be administered under the same provisions in all respects (except as may be necessary to adapt said provisions to the Women's Reserve, or as specifically provided herein) as those contained in this Act or which may hereafter be enacted with respect to the Volunteer Reserve.

"SEC. 502. Members of the Women's Reserve may be commissioned or enlisted in such appropriate ranks and ratings, corresponding to those of the Regular Navy, as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Navy: *Provided*, That there shall not be more than one officer in the grade of lieutenant commander; nor more than thirty-five officers in the grade of lieutenant; and that the number of officers in the grade of lieutenant (junior grade) shall not exceed 35 per centum of the total number of commissioned officers: *And provided further*, That military authority of officers commissioned under the provisions of this Act may be exercised over women of the Reserve only and is limited to the administration of the Women's Reserve.

"SEC. 503. The Reserve established by this title shall be composed of members who have attained the age of twenty years.

"SEC. 504. Members of the Women's Reserve shall be restricted to the performance of shore duty within the continental United States only and shall not be assigned to duty on board vessels of the Navy or in combat aircraft.

"SEC. 505. Members of the Women's Reserve shall not be used to replace civil-service personnel employed in the Naval Establishment, but shall be composed of women trained and qualified for duty in the shore establishment of the Navy to release male officers and enlisted men of the naval service for duty at sea.

"SEC. 506. The benefits provided by section 4 of the Act approved August 27, 1940 (Public, Numbered 775, Seventy-sixth Congress), and by the Act approved March 17, 1941 (Public Law Numbered 16, Seventy-seventh Congress), shall not be applicable to members of the Women's Reserve who suffer disability or death in line of duty from disease or injury while employed on active duty: *Provided*, That if any member of the Women's Reserve suffers disability or death from disease or injury incurred in line of duty while employed on active duty, she or her beneficiaries shall be entitled to all the benefits prescribed by law for civil employees of the United States who are physically injured or who die as a result thereof.

"SEC. 507. The Secretary of the Navy shall fix the money value of the articles of uniform and equipment which enlisted members of the Women's Reserve are required to have upon their first reporting for active duty: *Provided*, That he may authorize such articles of uniform and equipment, or parts thereof, to be issued in kind, or, in lieu thereof, that payment in cash of the money value fixed in accordance with the foregoing, not to exceed \$200, be made to such members so ordered to active duty, for the purchase of such articles of uniform and equipment.

"SEC. 508. The authority conferred by this Act for appointments and enlistments in the Women's Reserve shall be effective during the present war and for six months thereafter, or until such earlier time as the Congress by concurrent resolution or the President by proclamation may designate."

Approved, July 30, 1942.

Duration of authority.

[CHAPTER 539]

AN ACT

To provide increases of pension payable to dependents of veterans of the Regular Establishment, and for other purposes.

July 30, 1942

[H. R. 1030]

[Public Law 690]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the surviving widow, child, or children, and/or dependent mother or father of any deceased person who died as a result of injury or disease incurred in or aggravated by active military or naval service as provided for in part II, paragraph I, Veterans Regulation Numbered 1 (a), as amended, and persons entitled to pension under the provisions of the general pension law for death resulting from service prior to April 21, 1898, shall be entitled to receive pension at the monthly rates specified below:

Pensions payable to dependents of veterans of Regular Establishment.

38 U. S. C., notefol. ch. 12; Supp. I, note fol. ch. 12.

Widow, age under fifty years, \$30; widow, age fifty years or over, \$35; widow with one child, \$8 additional for such child up to ten years of age, increased to \$11 from age ten (with \$6 for each additional child up to ten years of age, increased to \$10 from age ten) (subject to apportionment regulations); no widow but one child, \$15; no widow but two children, \$25 (equally divided); no widow but three children, \$35 (equally divided) (with \$6 for each additional child, total amount to be equally divided); dependent mother or father, \$30 (or both) \$20 each. As to the widow, child, or children, the total pension payable under this paragraph shall not exceed \$62.

Monthly rates.

SEC. 2. As to persons now on the pension rolls or who are in receipt of or applicants for pension under laws in force prior to the date of enactment of this Act, the pension or increase of pension at the rates herein authorized shall commence on the first day of the month following the month in which this Act is enacted, and as to persons not now on the rolls or not in receipt of pension or who do not have an application pending, pension at the rates herein provided shall commence the day following the date of death of the veteran if claim is filed within one year following the date of death; otherwise the date of filing application in the Veterans' Administration: *Provided*, That notwithstanding the provisions of any other Act, all pensions which may be granted under the general pension law either in consequence of claims pending on the date of enactment of this Act or claims filed thereafter in consequence of death occurring from a cause which originated in the service since the 4th day of March 1861 shall be effective as of the day following the date of death of the veteran if claim is filed within one year after the death of such veteran, or otherwise from the date of receipt of the application: *Provided further*, That the rates of pension herein authorized shall not be awarded for any period prior to the first day of the month following the month of enactment of this Act.

Commencement date.

Persons now on pension rolls, etc.

Persons not now on rolls, etc.

*Proviso.*  
Awards under general pension law.  
Effective date.

Restriction.

Effect on pensions heretofore granted, etc.

SEC. 3. The provisions of this Act shall not be construed so as to terminate or reduce any pension heretofore granted, or to deny the increased rates as provided in this Act to those whose names are on the pension roll under the general law at the effective date of this Act, or deny any right, privilege, or benefit conferred by any pension law now in effect, except as to the effective date of commencement as provided in section 2 of this Act.